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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1910.

**THE MUDDLE IN THE SECOND.**

There will be a sweeping investigation of the political tangle in the Norfolk district. At its meeting last night the State Democratic Committee unanimously resolved upon this course. A special committee, consisting of nine members, one from each Congressional District, except the Norfolk district, will go to Norfolk and thoroughly investigate all the charges of corruption that have been made and report their findings to the State Committee in Richmond on October 4.

**THE MENTAL ATTITUDE OF THE REFORMER.**

Pope's idea was that "the proper study of mankind is man." He has always been an enigma, and particularly when he differs in any striking way from the common run of his kind. There is special interest, therefore, in the contribution of "Psychiatrist" to the New York Sun on the mental attitude of the reformer, and coming at this time of great unrest it affords the basis for the serious study of the present day sensation-mongers and influential disturbers of the public peace, who have succeeded by their "dreary and empty platitudes," their "speeches which echo the most silly utterances of the French Revolution," in exciting "the lowest instinct of the mob."

**THE OPENING OF THE SCHOOLS.**

The Nashville American speaks of the returning of millions of school pupils to work this week as "a parent compared with which all other parents dwindle into insignificance. It is by far the most important and far-reaching annual event that this or any other country witnesses. The slow, quiet work of the schools is not to be compared in value—in dollars and cents—to any other of the work of all other institutions and industries. The work of the latter, in fact, depends to a large extent, if not entirely, upon that done in the schools."

In proportion to the mental endowment their ideas are silly, absurd, or they are original and at first sight surprising, and in spite of all pervasively and want of harmony in the mental capabilities they give evidence of certain mental powers. Thus it may happen that a child, devoid of good judgment, may take the individual for a genius, just as on the other hand geniuses are taken for fools. They come forth in times of excitement as discoverers of new social and political systems for the saving of society or the founders of ideal states or the originators of new religious sects, etc. It is interesting to note how at such times a fool makes no ten but a thousand fools; how whole sections of the people are infected by the originality and eccentricities of such crazy demagogues, attracted by the fanatic zeal, founded sometimes on hallucinations, and their delusions of grandeur, and through their original weak-mindedness and pervasiveness and want of logic they live on the manifestations of sound thinking as vexations created by their own opinions; as manifestations of jealousy or envy or fear of their remarkable achievement; in the asylum these patients continue to elaborate their paranoid ideas of reform; they live only for themselves and for their dreams of the future, awaiting the moment when these shall be realized. In the course of years the personality is often transformed into an individual quite demented, and evidences of confusion and mental debility become apparent.

The Sun correspondent adds to his dissection of these paranoiacs such further manifestations of their disordered mind as intolerance of established authority, "especially if they think it interferes or even is not in harmony with their own extravagant ideas, vituperation and general intemperance of speech, a disorderly flight of ideas even about the most trivial subject," grandiose

vanity, eccentricity in dress, such a paranoiac is said to be capable of a great deal of mischief as "the often surrounds himself by other psychopathic and visionary reformers, who pay tribute to their abnormal associate." As Kraft-Ebing has said: "The danger of suggestion is incredible in an incendiary community, and it is not difficult to inflame the uncontrolled passions of a large number of people, especially as the lost self-control and diseased judgment lead the psychopathic to attack all the orderly institutions which as a rule are disagreeable if not intolerable to those who rebel at authority, who are communistic, or who are constantly, professionally or otherwise, engaged in making trouble for their fellowmen."

**A CLEAN SWEEP IN MAINE.**

The weather was perfect in Maine on Monday, and the election was one of the quietest that has been held in years. The vote was a full vote, aggregating something like 140,000. There had been no slumming by the Colonel, the issue was Republican extravagance in the administration of the affairs of the State and Nation, and the "rural vote," which the Republicans have been counting on for years in all their times of tribulation and fooling every time they got a chance, swelled the Democratic vote to such proportions that the party managers gave up the fight early in the evening and went home or to the club to "strike a blow for liberty." Not only did the Democrats elect the Governor, but they made a clean sweep of the Congressional districts, electing every member of Congress. In addition they elected a majority of State Senators, and it may turn out that they will have a small working majority in the House, which would mean, of course, another Democratic Senator at Washington.

The Republican bosses are stunned; the Democrats are correspondingly happy. Judge Parker made three speeches in the State during the campaign, and he attributes the Democratic victory, the most significant for years, to the straight fight the party made for the old Democratic doctrines, and the determination of the people of Maine to turn the rascals out. They did it, and Maine can now be added to the Democratic column for 1912, the people of that State having a very tenacious way of making up their mind and sticking to it.

**THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES.**

Much public interest will be taken in the personnel of the City Council committees announced last night. Into the care of these committees is entrusted the main business of our city government. It is, therefore, incumbent upon those who have in their power the appointment of these committees to select the best available men for important service, and to impose upon members of the Council such duties as are commensurate with their ability and experience in public affairs.

The committee appointments made last night measure up to such a test. In the selection of committeemen, President Whitte, of the Board of Aldermen, and President Peters, of the Common Council, displayed much wisdom and care, and are to be commended for the manner in which they performed this most important public duty.

It will be noted that the members of the Finance Committee have no other assignments, in conformity with the rule lately passed exempting members of that committee from connection with any other. This was in the nature of a reform measure, and it is hoped that it will result in more effective and equitable work by this committee. Heretofore, members of the Finance Committee have also been members of departmental and other committees, thus affording opportunity for members of the Finance Committee to have special pleas and to be consciously or unconsciously prejudiced toward some department of our city government.

In severing the ties between members of other committees and the Finance Committee its members should have an unbiased view of the city as a whole, without reference to any single department or activity of the city. More time for work and for thought on the financial questions confronting the city will, by the new order of things, be given to members of the Finance Committee. The effect of this new rule will be watched with keen interest by those who are in touch with local municipal affairs.

**THE COLONEL AND THE CROOKS.**

The Colonel is treating the disclosures of Mr. Earle in the Sugar Trust matter with the same contemptuous silence he displayed when Earle tried to get him to deal with the thieves when he was in power. Does Mr. Earle happen to know how much the Sugar Trust chipped in for the election of Mr. Roosevelt? The Colonel won't tell and he won't let Mr. Cortelyou tell. Has Mr. Earle run across any memoranda that had a suspicious political look in the course of his excavations? It is important, in a historical sense at least, that all the facts should come out, and we would suggest that the Congress at its next session create a commission to send for Cortelyou and all his papers and for the several Trusts and all their papers so that we may find out how many of the political crooks got away from the Colonel when he was President. In order that there might be a full statement of the "proceedings," we should think that all the Trusts and other contributors might be assured of immunity from prosecution if they only tell the truth.

**LOOK AFTER THE LUNCHES.**

Just now when the schools are about to open, it may not be inopportune to state the results of the experimenting with school lunches which has been carried on in New York for the last two years by the school authorities. A committee was organized there to investigate the matter of school lunches, and it has reported that "a three-cent lunch, well cooked and scientifically planned to give a well balanced ration, comes nearer to the solution of the problem of the backward child than anything else thus far tried. The committee has found that the underfed children are those who fall behind in their class work—and here it is well to emphasize the fact that there is a difference between hunger and malnutrition, and that an ill-nourished child is not necessarily a hungry child."

**A DINNER TO LORIMER.**

Some of Senator Lorimer's fool friends in Chicago are talking about giving a mammoth dinner in his honor in the Coliseum, with "covers," as they call the plates down in Charleston, for ten thousand persons. President Taft is to be invited to sit at the head table, and party lines are not to be drawn, but Democrats are to be seated at the dinner along with Republicans, and "it will be a love feast in honor of the Junior Senator, and all his friends are to be present, regardless of their political affiliations." Speaker Cannon is said to have accepted an invitation to be present, and all the Illinois Congressmen will be hidden to the feast.

**THE ROANOKE CLOVERDALE ROAD.**

The most notable achievement of the year in the good roads movement is the new macadam road between Roanoke and Cloverdale, which was formally opened and dedicated on September 1, near Roanoke. It is a little more than five miles long. A section of a mile and a quarter nearest Roanoke is built twenty-two feet wide with macadam sixteen feet wide, while the remainder is twenty feet wide, with macadam twelve feet wide. This fine highway was provided for

largely by private subscription, to which was added a small county fund and State convict aid of sixty men. The work was started in May of last year. The construction was carried on under the supervision of a committee and of the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt county.

**KEEPING IT HOLY.**

The Colonel denied himself to all visitors on Sunday, and "for the day," we are told, "relapsed into the comforts and seclusion of his family life," which consisted partly, it is said, in answering something like a thousand letters or so that had poured into Oyster Bay during his absence and required immediate attention even on the Lord's Day. The religious people of the country must have been impressed by the manner in which the Colonel remembered the Sabbath Day and kept it holy while he was out on his advertising tour, paid for by the religious publication with which he is connected. The whole of Sunday before last he spent in railroad travel and in making speeches from the tail-end of his car to the religious crowds which assembled to hear him at almost every railroad station, and we have no doubt that the Rev. Lawrence Abbott, the minister in charge of this missionary expedition, regarded his work as altogether of a highly spiritual sort. Travelling on Sunday and making political speeches, even of the Rollo Book order, and writing letters on Sunday are two manifestations of piety that are not distinctly recognized, we believe, in the constitution of the Dutch Reformed Church; but that is the fault of the constitution. In view of the Colonel's recent Sunday activities, can it be any longer contended that in this country we have not outgrown the old doctrine of Sunday observance?

**STUFFING MR. TAFT.**

Duncan McKinley spent two days with Mr. Taft at Beverly last week to discuss the political situation; but we fear that he did not tell the President the truth. For example, after stumping in Maine for a week he assured the President that the Republicans "would squeeze out a victory by a majority of from 4,000 to 5,000." The Democrats are still counting the ballots cast for their candidates, and have a majority of from 8,000 to 10,000. McKinley also told the President that while it might be a rather close call on the State ticket, Maine would surely elect all four of the Republican candidates for Congress. Instead, four Democrats were elected.

McKinley told the President, further, that the issues involved in the State contest were purely local. Mr. Plaisted, the successful Democratic candidate for Governor, with all the facts before him, says: "Local conditions were not responsible. The people of Maine voted on National issues, high prices, control of the Republican party in the interests of the trusts and Cannonism—all these contributed."

Mr. Taft was assured by Mr. McKinley that after a pretty thorough canvass of the country, the next Congress will be Republican by a majority of from ten to twelve.

Mr. Taft can judge of the value of Mr. McKinley's last named prophecy by the accuracy of his statements touching the state of things in the State of Maine. The best thing Mr. Taft can do is to appoint some more Democrats to important offices so that he will have some friends left in the country when he has completed his present term of office.

**OUR CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.**

In 1912 and until 1924, if he can last that long, and longer still if he shall continue to hold out, made six speeches in Arkansas during the campaign which closed on Monday, and swept the State for the initiative and referendum. Yet some persons say that they think that Mr. Bryan will not be a candidate in 1912!

**O EDWARD BOK!**

Would not once a month suffice?

Senator Hale, of the State of Maine, knew what he was about when he announced several months ago that he would not be a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate. Yet it must be said that he is a better man than his party.

**THE ONLY BRAND OF INSURGENT.**

It is an insurgency that insurges, and not a mere change of one set of Republican rascals for another set, and doubtless a worse set, of Republican rascals. What's the use of killing Cannon and so-called Cannonism without killing the Republican party which is Cannonism? Maine, glorious old Maine! has set the example for the honest people of all the States in our blessed Union.

Speaker Cannon will note that he cannot count on a single vote from Maine in his race for re-election as Speaker of the next House.

Exclaims the Houston Post: "The Legislature has adjourned. 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.' Reference is here made to the Texas Legislature, which has been in session a month or so; what would the Texans do if the lawmakers should sit for three solid months as some of them want to do in Virginia? Would it not be an occasion for a general Thanksgiving Day throughout the Commonwealth when they got through?"

A woman was run over at the Chantilly race course in France on Monday and killed by a horse that bolted through the crowd when it was being led from the paddock. She was wearing the hobble skirt and could not jump quick enough to save her skull, which was fractured. The moral is plain: Don't wear the hobble skirt except when you are attending bridge parties and church societies, because one never cares to get away from the card table and it is always proper to walk slowly when one feels religiously inclined.

The Georgians will be prouder than ever of the Hon. Martin V. Calvin when they are told that he is the double of Dr. Lyman Abbott, who has some connection with the Outlook paper and magazine.

Poor Asher Hinds! That's what he got for making those eight volumes of decisions for which Speaker Cannon is getting all the blame.

Is there any reason why the police officers should chew tobacco while they are on duty? It is a comforting habit, we know, but it does not look military.

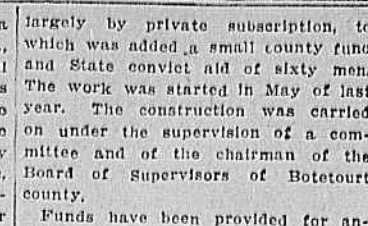


Illustration of a man in a suit, likely a political figure, standing and looking towards the right.

**Blot Out the Memory**

of breakfast spoiled by poor cooking—bread with poor leavening—muffins that didn't stand up as they "orter."

**Daily Queries and Answers**

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

**Definition of High School.**

Will you please answer in your Query Column what grades compose a high school? For an example: I understand that just the high grades compose the high school, and some others say that all of the grades in a school, from A. B. C.'s up, compose the high school.

**Initiative and Referendum.**

1. Please give me the meaning of the words "initiative and referendum" or "referendum." 2. What is the exact difference in the number of yards in the word "knots," as used by sailors, and a mile of 1,760 yards? I have for a long time wanted to know.

**BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.**

A new view of the fact that there are at the present moment in England two men known as Lord Gifford, may be well to explain that the Lord Gifford arriving from England in New York for a visit of some duration to the United States, is not the elderly peer of that name, who won the Victoria Cross by a feat of exceptional heroism, while serving under Lord Wolseley in the Ashanti War, in 1873, and who has been acting governor of Western Australia, and also of Gibraltar, but the eldest son and heir of the tenth Marquis of Tweeddale, whose name should be pronounced as if it were split "Twiddle." The Victoria Cross Lord Gifford is a member of the House of Lords, in which he sits as a baron; whereas the Lord Gifford visiting America is a commoner in the eyes of the law, and an earl merely by usage, and courtesy thanks to the custom, sanctioned by the House of Lords, according to which the eldest sons of dukes, marquises and earls are allowed to make use of one of the minor titles of their fathers. Lord Gifford is twenty-six years of age, unmarried, and has quite recently retired from his lieutenancy of the Buffs, a regiment of the British Guards, on the reserve force of which, however, he is still carried. He is also one of the bright particular stars of the "Bachelors' Club in London," and although he may possibly and during his stay over here some American heiress willing to share his honors, he has looked out for the inheritance of a fortune hunter, seeing that the entailed estates alone, which will come into his possession on the death of his father, the Marquis, amount to over 600 acres in England and Scotland, in addition to which the present Marquis has acquired a considerable fortune in his own business. Born as a younger son, the Marquis was educated at Haileybury, for the civil service in India, in which he served for some years, and then, with a very considerable distinction. Before returning home he achieved fame as an explorer of Tibet, which was in the year 1897, even more than as a soldier. He looked out for the inheritance of a fortune hunter, seeing that the entailed estates alone, which will come into his possession on the death of his father, the Marquis, amount to over 600 acres in England and Scotland, in addition to which the present Marquis has acquired a considerable fortune in his own business. Born as a younger son, the Marquis was educated at Haileybury, for the civil service in India, in which he served for some years, and then, with a very considerable distinction. Before returning home he achieved fame as an explorer of Tibet, which was in the year 1897, even more than as a soldier. He looked out for the inheritance of a fortune hunter, seeing that the entailed estates alone, which will come into his possession on the death of his father, the Marquis, amount to over 600 acres in England and Scotland, in addition to which the present Marquis has acquired a considerable fortune in his own business.

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JULIEN H. HILL, Cashier.  
Three per cent. per annum interest allowed on Savings Deposits, compounded every six months.



Illustration of a woman in a long dress, likely a historical figure, standing and looking towards the left.

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